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about the desired results the oil companies will cause their wells to be pulled up by the roots by so-called bandits with the express purpose of weakening Oregon. In this manner the whole oil problem will be removed and Oregon will be deprived of one of his most valuable objects of attack and sources of revenue. This blow to his prestige would be fatal.

The oil interests, while of course denying any complicity in these dastardly plots, are much perturbed over the increasing demands for ransom. In the old days it is said that they included among "fixed charges" the cost of keeping bandits quiet. Competition being small, the price was standard. But the recent outbreaks indicate that the high cost of banditry is reaching new peaks. Can this mean that some of Oregon's troops are competing with the bandits?

The Sea Power Covenants

Great Britain has followed the United States and Japan in ratifying the limitation of naval armament and four-power Pacific treaties. The three powers most concerned have therefore accepted the work of the Washington conference. Originally the conference was planned to include only Great Britain, Japan and the United States. But France was subsequently invited to be a signatory to the Pacific non-aggression compact, and Italy, as well as France, was asked to join in the declaration of a naval construction holiday and the fixation of a ratio for capital ships.

The French Chamber of Deputies has adjourned for the summer without acting on the Washington treaties. Opposition to them of an academic sort has arisen in Paris. But this comes from dissatisfaction that France lost considerable ground as a naval power during the war while Great Britain, the United States and Japan were rapidly expanding their fleets. France's ratio—the same as Italy's—seems small to many supporters of the French navy. Yet the ratio takes into account the forced suspension of French building from 1914 to 1919. And France has the consolation of sacrifices only of paper capital ships which she delayed building and could not well afford to build now.

The new international naval ratio is a guaranty of non-aggression and a life-saver to many national treasuries. It banishes trouble and contentions from the high seas, for each nation agrees to respect the others' present sea status and overseas rights. France and Italy will pretty certainly ratify the Washington treaties. They certainly have nothing to gain by holding out. The three major naval powers have set a limit on naval rivalries which will stand not only because it is just and sensible but because no smaller naval power could prudently undertake to challenge it and overstep it.

Double Barreled

Through the publicity campaign captained by William J. Connors William R. Hearst has consolidated against himself what seems to be an overwhelming opposition to his supposed aspirations for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

Tammany, at first troubled by the Hearst movement, caused a convention of upstate Democrats to be called in Syracuse to sound sentiment outside of New York. It discovered to its relief that few Democrats wanted Hearst as their candidate for Governor.

Newspapers opposed to Hearst sent representatives to the various counties above the Harlem Bridge, notably Monroe and Albany. These representatives found little strength in the Hearst gubernatorial candidacy. At this writing Hearst's ambition to be Governor—provided he has any such ambition—seems to be thwarted.

But it is quite conceivable that this development is not at all distasteful to him. If his real motive is the control of the New York delegation in the next national convention or, as a step in that direction, the nomination for United States Senator this fall, he has done himself little harm by concentrating all the forces of the party in an effort to keep him out of the Governorship.

While delegates are being pledged against him as a candidate for the State Executive his agents will have an opportunity to trade with Tammany for national convention delegates or to bargain for support for Senator in exchange for getting out of "Al" Smith's way in the state campaign.

The Senatorship would afford Mr. Hearst an opportunity he has long sought to make the Congressional Record a sort of supplement to the Hearst newspapers. He could repeat to a national audience the appeals to prejudice and selfishness which he can now make only to the readers of his papers. He could introduce bills and pathetically picture himself in his journals as a martyr to the interests when they were beaten.

Hearst's dream, of course, is to be President. If he can quietly step into a Senatorial nomination while his party is trying to keep him from running for Governor his red herring will have done effective work for him.

From the beginning his present political activity has been a double-

barreled affair. If he could bring down the Governorship by a blast from one muzzle perhaps he could wing the Senatorship by blazing away from the other.

The Bumpy Dover Road

Andrew W. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, is a man of wide business experience and knows when any organization which he heads is efficient.

David H. Blair, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, is a gentleman of high character and intelligence who is in public life at great personal sacrifice. His worthy ambition is to improve the government's service and to save public money, and he is vitally concerned to have his assistants those competent for their tasks.

Elmer Dover, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, is a gentleman chiefly known for his connection with political committees and naturally an adherent of the doctrine that spoils belong to political victors. When he arrived in Washington he was heralded as an axman. His advertised special business was to turn out the rascals inherited from the Wilson days. Mr. Dover whetted his ax vigorously while Congressmen with importunate constituents joyfully turned the grindstone.

Messrs. Mellon and Blair, on the one side, and Mr. Dover, on the other, have not dwelt together in harmony. They did not agree as to the merit of the personnel of the Treasury Department. To the Secretary and the Commissioner it seemed good; to the Assistant Secretary it seemed bad. Who is right? It's a safe guess that it isn't Mr. Dover.

The other men are in a better position to judge. Moreover, Messrs. Mellon and Blair disregard partisanship when measuring administrative efficiency, while Mr. Dover regards it. So it is not surprising that the Secretary's back is up—that he has let it be known that, having recruited his force with only efficiency in view, he will not tolerate outside and interested interference.

That the Wilson Administration, especially in the days when Tumulty was pro-consul, treated the public service as a pasture for spoilsmen is sadly true. But should the Harding Administration imitate its predecessor in this? Did the election show popular support for Mr. Tumulty's ideas? Such has not been the common understanding, and if Mr. Dover, as is reported, has resigned or is about to resign because his backers find Secretary Mellon cold, the Secretary is to be congratulated. He has done the Administration good. He has driven what may turn out to be the final nail in the coffin of Jacksonism. The Dover road is no longer one to travel.

Make an End of Flummery

Governor Hardwick of Georgia, properly indignant, rightfully demands that the members of the Ku Klux Klan in his state desist from wearing the ridiculous masks and sheets that have distinguished their order. Disguises, whether by false whiskers or pillow cases, are the regalia of bandits and highwaymen. They are badges of a criminal intent.

No man or no organization whose purposes are honorable has any reason for slinking behind a mask. The man who conceals his identity is a coward, and this is not a country where cowards are admired.

The ghostly clothing of the Ku Klux Klan has long ceased to terrorize even the ignorant. It is to be hoped that Governor Hardwick convinces the masqueraders that he means to put an end either to their disguises or to their organization.

Doing Well, Thank You

"The New York Call," in the latest of its daily appeals for financial support, contrasts its case with that of the Gandhi organ in India which continues to come out secretly though its presses have been stopped and five successive editors have been sent to jail. Says "The Call":

"Here no editors are going to jail. The printing of 'The Call' has not been stopped. Yet it may be at any time. Why? Because there is INDIFFERENCE among the group whose efforts must keep it alive."

"The Call" does not pause to consider why it finds it so hard to get along here where it admits it has a free chance. It does not discuss the reason for the indifference of which it complains.

If it did it might be led to see, and perhaps to admit, that the class consciousness and the class strife it would arouse and prosper on have little justification here; that its philosophy of discontent and turbulence lacks foundation; that hence the American workingman is apathetic toward imported doctrines which may have pertinence in other lands but practically none here.

As a result of the war and its price disturbances there has been a notable reevaluation. Taking classes as wholes, the wage worker has gained. His standard of living is higher, and, in spite of all grumbling and cases wherein the rule does not hold, he knows it.

LOOKS AS IF WE'D HAVE TO HAVE A COMPULSORY ARBITRATION BOARD OR SOMETHING IN WASHINGTON



A Political Semi-Centennial

By Arthur C. Staples

In July, 1872, Solon Chase, of Chase's Mills, Turner, Me., read an item in The New York Tribune (which Uncle Solon always pronounced "Try-bune") saying that "Pleiron" Kelley had made another inflation speech in the House.

By publishing that item The New York Tribune started the Greenback party. This month and year are its semi-centennial. For forty years the grass has been growing green over the grave of this political party, but it had a lusty growth while it lived and it took a ruling of the United States Supreme Court to kill it.

Uncle Solon Chase always lived remote from big cities. He was a Yankee who was proud of the fact that one of his maternal grandfathers was an Indian. He could write English that was almost as pure and faultless as that of Lincoln, but in his speech he affected a Yankee dialect that made New York audiences roll about with laughter. He had power over common thought. He swayed listeners until he had convinced them. He had homely wit and illustration.

When Uncle Solon read that article in The Tribune he sent to Congressman Kelley and got the speech, intending to answer it through The Tribune. He studied the speech all summer and winter and could not seem to get anywhere. Finally, one day he said to himself: "Perhaps Kelley is right and I am wrong," and then, as he used to put it, "Like Saul of Tarsus, I knew that I was converted. I put on my boots and rushed out of the house. In one day I had converted all my neighbors. In the March town meeting of Turner I had a Greenback party that carried the town meeting. Greenbackism was on the way. The sound of the oncoming tramp of its caow-hides could be heard from afar."

A Greenback Religion

Republican leaders in Maine smiled at Uncle Solon at the beginning—but not for long. His "doctrine," or his "greenback religion," as he called it, spread like an epidemic. Blaine, Frye, Dingley, who were the leaders of Maine Republicanism, which was very strong also in Washington, began to

What Readers Say

Mr. E. P. Mitchell, of "The New York Sun," wrote of Solon Chase in 1907: "I heard Solon Chase speak in Boston after Wendell Phillips, the patriotic demagogue, the Ionian orator, unequalled perhaps in our time in clothing, in dignity, the most passionate, fanciful and erroneous ideas; but even after Mr. Phillips Uncle Solon, with his twinkling, his grin, his cowhide boots and his homely, pithy style, conquered a great audience even unusually critical, for it had paid to get in. We will not attempt to say which was the better orator. It is fruitless to compare methods so different."

The party died early in the '90s. Fusion with Democrats killed it in Maine; Uncle Solon said one day he ceased to be a cause when one day he read, again in The Tribune, that the Supreme Court of the United States had declared greenbacks to be legal tender for all debts, public and private. He retired to his bees and his "sugar." He wrote poetic letters from Chase's Mills to the newspapers. So Chase's Mills to the newspapers. So Chase's Mills to the newspapers. So Chase's Mills to the newspapers.

JOHN GRAHAM, Leonis, N. J., July 8, 1922.

Wasted Words

(From The Washington Post) The Washington statement that 98 per cent of the hootch will kill is about as effective as the New York warning that every murderer will be executed.